

House Bill 383

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Willard of the 49th, and Miller of the 106th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 45-18-10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the right of continuation of coverage for former employees, payment of premiums, establishment of terms and conditions by the board, and appointment as United States Attorney, so as to provide that a superior court judge or district attorney who is vested in the Georgia Judicial Retirement System and who does not return to office may continue full coverage under the state health benefit plan; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 45-18-10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the right of continuation of coverage for former employees, payment of premiums, establishment of terms and conditions by the board, and appointment as United States Attorney, is amended by striking in its entirety subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) Any other provision of this article to the contrary notwithstanding, ~~on and after July 1, 1978, any~~

(1) Any employee who resigns from employment or who fails to be reelected or who does not seek reelection to office and who at the time he or she leaves office or employment has completed eight or more years of service as an employee, as defined in Code Section 45-18-1, shall be entitled to continue full coverage and participation, including coverage for his or her spouse and dependent children, in the health insurance plan upon the payment of a monthly premium to be fixed by the board; ~~and, in addition thereto, any~~

(2) Any member of the General Assembly who ceases to hold office as such at any time after July 1, 1981, and who was eligible to retire at the time of leaving office, except for the attainment of retirement age, pursuant to a public retirement system created by law to which the General Assembly appropriates funds, and who does not withdraw employee contributions from such public retirement system, shall be entitled to continue full

1 coverage and participation, including coverage for the spouse and dependent children of
2 such person, in the health insurance plan by continuing to pay to the board the monthly
3 premium which is paid by an active state employee; and

4 (3) Any superior court judge or district attorney who is vested in the Georgia Judicial
5 Retirement System who fails to be reelected or who does not seek reelection and who
6 does not withdraw his or her employee contributions from such retirement system shall
7 be entitled to continue full coverage and participation, including coverage for the spouse
8 and dependent children of such person, in the health insurance plan by continuing to pay
9 to the board the monthly premium which is paid by an active state employee.

10 The first monthly premium provided for in this Code section must be paid within 30 days
11 following receipt of a notice of premium to be sent to such person by the board. If such
12 premium is not paid within such time limit, such insurance coverage shall be canceled and
13 such person shall not again be eligible to participate in such plan. This Code section shall not
14 affect the rights otherwise available under this article to retired employees and their spouses
15 and dependents. The board is authorized to establish terms and conditions for participation
16 which the board shall deem appropriate and which are not in conflict with this Code section."

17 SECTION 2.

18 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.